

the beach of Santa Cruz Island in 1897, and presented by him to the Trustees. So unlike any other described species does it appear that I have considered that even such imperfect material should be utilised.

The brothers Adams, in grouping the recent species of *Lima*, set apart under the subgenus *Ctenoides* of Klein, *L. scabra*, Born, and *L. tenera*, Chemnitz, distinguished, among other features, by a sculpture of "ribs divaricate, meeting in the centre." Our novelty appears to find its nearest relations with these. More recently described species embraced by this character are:—*L. albicoma*, Dall., *L. concentrica*, Sowerby, and *L. murrayi*, Smith. *L. alata* appears to be longer than any of its immediate kin, with which I am not autotopically acquainted, and to differ from any recent *Lima* in the development and sinuation of the anterior auricle.

ORNITHOLOGICAL NOTES.

By ALFRED J. NORTH, C.M.Z.S., Ornithologist.

IV.—ON A SPECIES OF PIGEON FREQUENTING THE ATOLLS OF THE ELLICE GROUP.

For nearly a quarter of a century various observers and writers have made reference to a species of Pigeon frequenting the Ellice Group. As I pointed out in my brief notes on the birds brought back from Funafuti by Mr. Hedley,* I could find no record of adult specimens having been obtained, but there was little doubt that the birds seen by Mr. Jansen on Funafuti in 1876, and by Mr. C. R. Swayne on Niu in 1895, were correctly identified by them as *Globicera pacifica*.

Prior to the departure of the Coral-Boring Expedition for Funafuti last year, I urged the desirability of procuring one or

* Austr. Mus. Mem. III.—Atoll of Funafuti, pt. 1, Aves, 1896, p. 86.

more of these Pigeons if possible, and subsequently Mr. W. G. Woolnough, B.Sc., succeeded in shooting the specimen herein referred to, on the islet of Fualifeke, Funafuti Atoll, on 9th August, 1897. The Pigeon was presented to the Trustees of the Australian Museum. It proved to be a female *Globicera pacifica*, slightly smaller, but precisely similar in plumage to an example obtained about the same time from the Rev. H. A. Robertson of Erromanga, New Hebrides. There is, however, scarcely any indication of the knob at the base of the bill and it is probably similar to the specimen on which Bonaparte bestowed the name of *Globicera microcera*, a synonym of this species. This may be due to immaturity, for the feathers surrounding the bill and on the chin, are not quite so white as in examples obtained in other islands of the Pacific, and in which the knob on the bill is more developed. In the Ornithology of the "United States Exploring Expedition,"* Cassin, writes as follows of this species: "The knob at the base of the bill in this bird is not so greatly developed as in some other species, at least this is the case in the specimens now before us, from the collection of the Expedition. This appendage occurs in several species of the group of fruit-eating Pigeons, and is we suspect, not only peculiar to, or largest in the male bird, but also most observable at the commencement of the season of incubation, like the appendages on the head and neck, or wattles, of the turkey."

The specimen of *G. pacifica* from Funafuti, measures:—total length 12·5 inches, wing 8·8, tail 5·2, bill 0·95, tarsus, 0·95. A female from Erromanga measures:—total length 14·5, wing 9·2, tail, 5·6, bill imperf., tarsus 1.

Since the receipt of the above specimen, Mr. J. Stanley Gardiner, B.A., of Caius College, Cambridge, has kindly sent me a reprint from *The Ibis* for January 1898, containing an account by Dr. Hans Gadow, of the birds collected by Mr. Gardiner on Funafuti, and later on at Rotumah. Nine species were obtained on the former atoll, of which *Numenius tahitensis*, *Charadrius fulvus*, *Streptilas interpres*, and *Gygis candida*, are additions to its avi-fauna. Dr. Gadow also remarks "The following species was observed but not obtained:—*Carpophaga pistrinaria*."

Evidently this is the Pigeon Mr. Gardiner informed me, on his return to Sydney, that he had seen on Funafuti, but was unable to identify in the Museum. Hitherto, this species, of which we have a fine series in the collection, has only been recorded from the Solomon Islands, about a thousand miles from Funafuti. It is a larger and much lighter coloured bird, and if well seen could hardly be mistaken for *Globicera pacifica*. If Mr. Gardiner is correct in his determination, there are two species of Pigeons frequenting the Ellice Group.

* Cassin—U. S. Expl. Exped. Orn. p. 265 (1858).

The following is a list of the birds recorded up to date, that frequent these atolls, brought so much into prominence by the recent coral-boring expeditions :—

<i>Urodynamis taitensis</i>	<i>Strepsilas interpres</i>
<i>Fregata aquila</i>	<i>Limosa nova-zeelandiae</i>
<i>Demigretta sacra</i>	<i>Anous stolidus</i>
<i>Globicera pacifica</i>	<i>Micranous leucocapillus</i>
* <i>Carpophaga pistrinaria</i>	<i>Procelsterna caerulea</i>
<i>Charadrius fulvus</i>	<i>Sterna ancesthera</i>
<i>Totanus incanous</i>	<i>Sterna melanauchen</i>
<i>Numenius tahitensis</i>	<i>Gygis candida</i>

V.—ON THE OCCURRENCE OF *BUTASTUR TEESA* IN AUSTRALIA.

Some time ago Mr. Richard Grant of Lithgow, presented a skin of *Butastur teesa* to the Trustees, accompanied by the following note: "With regard to this Hawk, I shot it in a ring-barked tree, near the Bowenfels road, Lithgow. I do not know the exact date, but as near as I can remember it was in November 1889. I skinned it, also some Brown Hawks, that I shot the same day, and partly filled the skins out and put them away. I took no further notice of them until my brother returned home and drew my attention to this bird's plumage." Lithgow is situated in a valley of the Blue Mountains, 3007 feet above the level of the sea, and 96 miles west of Sydney. *Butastur teesa*, the White-eyed Buzzard Eagle is very abundant in some parts of India, which is the habitat of this species, but I can find no record of its having been obtained on any of the islands lying between India and Australia. *B. liventer*, which occurs in Java and Timor, or *B. indicus*, inhabiting Borneo, Sumatra, and the Phillipines, I should not have been so much surprised at obtaining on the Australian continent. The specimen of *B. teesa* procured at Lithgow, is similar to others in the collection from India, except in showing very little trace of the white mottlings on the wing-coverts. It is not in full adult plumage, for the sides of the throat and the spots on the breast are white instead of yellowish-white, otherwise it agrees with the description of the adult female given by Dr. Sharpe† in the "Catalogue of Birds in the British Museum."

VI.—ON A LIVING EXAMPLE OF *PSEPHOTUS CHRYSOPTERYGIUS*.

Regarding this species, Gould, who described it, writes in his Handbook to the Birds of Australia,‡ as follows:—"One of the

* On the authority of Mr. Gardiner.

† Sharpe—Cat. Bds. Brit. Mus., i., p. 295, (1874).

‡ Gould, Handbk. Bds. Aust., ii., p. 65 (1865).